FR 2 – The service implements and monitors systems for the procurement of equipment to deliver the service.

- a. Central to effective delivery of the service is the procurement of equipment and consumables for all aspects of the service. Policies and protocols for this purpose should be grounded in current best practice and reflect statutory requirements and the guidelines and instructions of the parent organisation. Staff should be aware of policies and guidelines and know how to access them.
- b. Robust systems should be in place to support cost-effective procurement. Policies for the procurement of major equipment should provide operational and equipment specifications, and include guidance for clinical and post-tender evaluation and assurance. Processes should be in place to regulate the procurement and replacement of ancillary and consumable equipment such as: medical devices; laundered items; disposable towels; disposable gloves; and protective equipment.
- c. Equipment should be procured specifically to meet the needs of the service's target population, including the expected range of size and weight of patients. Restrictions on use, such as an operational weight limit, should be clearly displayed on the equipment. Equipment used for the imaging of children must be selected or modified appropriately and a full range of attachments should be available; for example, ultrasound probes suitable for all age ranges and body parts (see also standard statement SA2).
- d. The service should have a rolling replacement programme which defines capital requirements on an annual basis and is shared with the parent organisation's management, with an agreed approach to funding. The expected lifetime of equipment will vary according to how much it is used, technological advances and changes in clinical need. Attention should be paid to advice on equipment age provided by the relevant Professional Bodies. Imaging equipment should not exceed the maximum recommended age.
- e. Where equipment is provided through an alternative route such as charitable funding, it should be included in the rolling replacement programme. In addition, it should be ensured that issues such as ongoing maintenance and appropriate updates costs can be covered.
- f. Funding for minor capital items should be allocated within the annual budget reviewed within the service planning cycle. A defined and approved budget should be maintained for equipment maintenance repairs and any software upgrades within the operating life cycle, including replacement of major parts such as X-ray tubes.
- g. All equipment (both ionising and non-ionising) should be identified on an inventory or asset register with: date of installation; type of equipment; expected working life; capital depreciation rate; and replacement value.
- h. Policies and processes for the procurement of equipment used in the acquisition of diagnostic images and interventional procedures should cover selection of equipment as well as installation, calibration, quality assurance, maintenance, and replacement.

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The Pressure Systems Safety Regulations 2000. www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2000/20000128.htm

Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2012/3/enacted

Websites

NHS Supply Chain https://www.supplychain.nhs.uk/

Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency www.mhra.gov.uk/index.htm

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